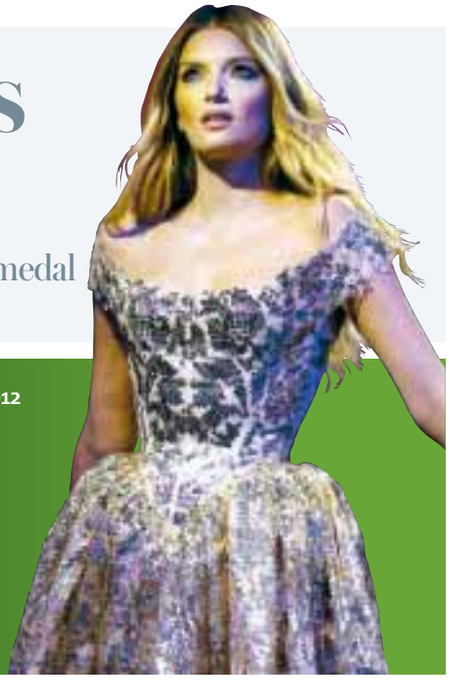
Party like a country star

Saskatoon's Wyatt predict their hometown will set the bar high for future CCMAs when it hosts the awards next month PAGE 8

All that glitters back on trend

Britain's biggest fashion talents get a gold medal for style at the Olympic closing bash PAGE 10



SASKATOON metro®

Thursday, August 23, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Tami Wall: Premier's wife talks power tools, charities and career

Tami Wall was in Regina this week helping to build a house for Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization that provides houses to those in need.
CARRIE-MAY SIGGINS/METRO

On the go. From real estate to a kids' music festival, Tami Wall is plenty busy these days — and loving it

CARRIE-MAY SIGGINS
Metro in Regina

Tami Wall is really into power tools.

This quickly became apparent on the site of a Habitat for Humanity building project she participated in on Tuesday in Regina. She was the only volunteer to rev up the circular saw.

"It's true, I love power tools," said Wall. "You can ask Brad. There have been times when he's come home and I've cut up the deck. And because he's away a lot, he has no say."

Metro took advantage of Wall's visit to the Queen City to find out a little more about the Saskatchewan premier's wife. One thing is immediately clear — she believes deeply in the charitable organization she sweated for on Tuesday.

"It really does help the people who are getting the houses," said Wall, who is on her second build. "As a mom, not having to worry about if your kids have a safe place to call home is really important, I think."

Wall is keeping a packed schedule these days. She's the president of the Swift Current and District Music Festival, an arts initiative for children. She's also an accompanist, joining many of the kids on piano during their performances. Wall also works full-time as a real-estate assessor, and has started coaching the girls' basketball team in the family's hometown of Swift Current.

Inside the Wall abode

Premier's 'man cave' a family space

The design and creation of space seems to be a consistent theme in Wall's life. She was an interior designer for a time after leaving her career as a civic engineer (the responsibilities of being a politico's wife interfered with project deadlines, plus she decided to stay home with the kids — "a tough choice," she said). If she could go back in time, she'd study architecture. Wall tries to create a calm environment in her own home for her busy family.

"I like the softer tones of green," said Wall. "Because our life is so busy and so crazy all the time, I like to have a place to take it down a notch."

One room in the house is an exception from the soft, calming tones.

"Brad has a 'man cave.' It has the Oakland Raiders' colours, with a bunch of Riders stuff in it. And a big-screen TV. But everyone gets to use it, though, so that's good." METRO

Long-term discussion

Wall considers changes to resource royalties

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall is musing about adjusting the way the province collects money from companies that extract natural resources.

Wall says companies should have royalty stability especially after they've spent billions investing in the economy. But he also says it's important that taxpayers are properly compensated if in 20 years potash production has doubled.

The current complex system is based on price rather than volume and Wall says it needs to change. However, the premier says it could be years before the discussion gets into any specific detail and there might just be some tweaking rather than any major adjustments.

Wall also says the province and industry will work together to avoid what he calls royalty shock. "We've said that to companies that in the long-term we're going to have to adjust as we go forward. Doubling production in Saskatchewan in 10 or 20 years is a game changer and that should be reflected in a number of things." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crop estimates

Farmers look forward to record canola production

Statistics Canada says Prairie farmers are anticipating record canola production this year, as well as increases in wheat and barley.

The agency says Prairie farmers anticipate a record 15.2 million tonnes of canola, surpassing 2011's record of 14 million tonnes. Overall weather conditions in the West have been closer to normal this growing season after two years of wet weather in parts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Roster changes

Riders add receiver to practice squad

The Saskatchewan Roughriders announced Wednesday they added non-import wide receiver Aaron Hargreaves to the team's practice roster.

The six-foot-four, 223 pound receiver from Ladner, B.C, played four seasons with Winnipeg and appeared in 62 games — catching 53 passes for 531 yards and a touchdown.

The Riders also announced that linebacker Abraham Kromah and receiver Jordan Sisco have each been placed on the nine-game injured list. Both were injured in Sunday's game against B.C. METRO

It's funny, that's just the way it is: Sheepdogs debut major-label video

Sept. 4 album launch. Band approached comedy team The Sklar Brothers to direct

JANE CAULFIELD
jane.caulfield@metronews.ca

The Sheepdogs pose on the red carpet at the 2012 Much Music Video Awards in Toronto on June 17.
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Showing fans their lighter side, The Sheepdogs had their new video for The Way It Is created and directed by American comedy duo The Sklar Brothers.

"It's our first video for a major label," said Ewan Currie, vocalist and guitarist. "But we approached the directors ourselves and got them to come up with the idea. So we were able to have the creative control there."

Currie describes the video, which depicts the band as a rowdy, beer-drinking baseball team playing against a little-league team, as tongue-in-cheek. "We just wanted to make a video that's fun, like a video you'd watch if someone posted it on Facebook or Youtube," he said.

Randy and Jason Sklar are known for mixing their unique humour with sports casting, as seen on the show Cheap Seats on ESPN Classic, which ended its run in 2006.

The Sheepdogs self-titled album, set to be released on Sept. 4, will also be their first record released on a major label. To check out the video, head to metronews.ca.

Follow Jane Caulfield on Twitter @janecaulfield

Fans react

- "(The video) shows that they like to have fun. That they like to party." — Brianne Gumulak
- "It's a good video. A little concerned about the way they kind of beat up on the kids." — Wayne Emmerson
- "It's easy going. They are definitely from around here." — Emma Vanwake
- "The video I didn't mind. I kind of like the analogy of childhood vs adulthood." — Tyler Weiland
- "Great vid. Wish they'd filmed it here is all." — Matt Voyno

Mobile news

Chad Kroeger and Avril Lavigne aren't the only celeb couple who got engaged this year. Scan the code to see Hollywood's other headline-grabbing pairings.

Aboriginal community focus of national police conference

Members of the Saskatoon Police Service speak with two people on 20th Street in May. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Developing strong relationships with Canada's Aboriginal Peoples was the primary focus at this year's Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police annual conference held in Sydney, N.S. from Aug. 18 to Aug. 22.

Clive Weighill, chief of the Saskatoon Police Service, attended the conference, and said it was important for getting an overview of policing in Canada.

"It provides an excellent opportunity to sit and talk with other police executives across the country," he said. "We were discussing primarily aboriginal issues in Canada, the history, the Truth and Reconciliation process with the residential schools, the partnerships that are being formed now between police and aboriginal organizations and building trust within that community."

Weighill also said the conference provides police chiefs with a chance to meet face-to-face with one another, something that's important for collaboration between forces.

"We're talking a lot about — as executives — the running of an organization and the management of an organization and it's very helpful to be sitting down with other police chiefs who have some of the same issues that we do," he said. "Whether it be discipline, policy issues or promotion issues, it's just to have a sit-down talk, face-to-face where you can really get in-depth."

Weighill explained it's a positive experience for him as these conferences reaffirm the SPS is on a par with other forces across the country.

"Saskatoon doesn't take a back seat to anyone," said Weighill. "We're a very progressive service and it really does shine when we go to these conferences."

MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Harper's haven? Vast new national park mixes tranquillity and trade

A vast tract of mountainous Northwest Territories terrain was christened Wednesday as a new national park — with a twist.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper billed it as striking a balance between protecting the environment and growing Canada's economy.

The original Naats'ihch'oh reserve proposal was to protect 7,600 square kilometres from commercial activity.

But the final decision instead sets aside just over 4,300 square kilometres of lakes and rainbow-hued mountains about 90 minutes south of Norman Wells.

The remaining territory has potential for mineral development, which is why it was left out of the final plan.

"One of our objectives is to make sure we protect our environment and also allow for economic opportunity here," said Harper, who unveiled plans for the park as part of his annual late-summer sojourn through Canada's North.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"It's a spectacular place for a new national park."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper
as he toured the Naats'ihch'oh reserve

Stephen Harper and wife Laureen tour the park. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drivers charged

Rubberneckers on the 401 get a cellphone shock

Ontario Provincial Police have charged 21 drivers for rubbernecking on Highway 401.

Officers attending a collision involving two tractor-trailers in Napanee, Ont., noticed numerous drivers using their hand-held devices to take photos of the wreckage as they drove past.

The drivers caught were charged with distracted driving, which carries a $155 fine.

Another driver spotted using his elbows to steer his car was charged with careless driving, police said.

The OPP says a driver sending a text while driving at highway speed travels the length of a football field without looking at the road.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Love shines for Layton — but politics peek in

One year later. Peace Tower crowd told Jack's message would be: Roll up those sleeves ... start making a difference

Love and politics do mix, it was clear Wednesday.

There was an unapologetically partisan bite to the message of love, hope and optimism as Jack Layton was remembered on Parliament Hill.

A year after his death, the former NDP leader's political causes were front and centre as a small crowd gathered under the shadow of the Peace Tower.

They had come to honour the man who led the party to an electoral breakthrough.

"I miss him dearly, but he would be telling us all right now to roll up those sleeves, get to work and get moving with making a difference," NDP MP Paul Dewar told the Layton admirers.

Dewar then listed some NDP priorities — starting with restoring full healthcare coverage to refugee claimants.

"It's a shame that the Conservatives have cut it," Dewar said.

Did the raw politics taint the occasion?

Not according to Dewar.

"The way to commemorate Jack is to get on with the work," said the Ottawa MP.

Still, the message of love was strong.

A young woman held a simple orange sign emblazoned with the word "Love," while the Dominion carillonneur played John Lennon's song Imagine in the Peace Tower.

Jack Layton is remembered in chalk on a memorial wall in Toronto on Wednesday. MICHELLE SIU/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Today is about love.... That is the message."

Louis Lefebvre, 23,
A self-described homeless person at the Peace Tower celebration.

A small Layton photo was placed next to orange flowers and a bottle of Orange Crush — the nickname given the NDP's electoral sweep in Quebec in May 2011.

Meanwhile, love shone brightly as events were staged across Canada to mark Layton's death from cancer last August at age 61. Picnics and pub nights were being held from Smithers, B.C., to Charlottetown.

But by far the largest of those events was held in Toronto, where Layton served as a high-profile city councillor before moving to federal politics in 2003.

By Wednesday afternoon, admirers had honoured Layton's memory with colourful tributes scrawled in chalk outside Toronto's city hall — a more restrained version of the mural that plastered the grounds after his death last summer.

Kenn Bell carefully printed the words "The future is bright" in vivid orange and white block letters, using the New Democrats' trademark colours.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Thousands of student protesters re-emerge amid Quebec election

Tuition dispute. About 43,000 remain on strike: CLASSE student association

Student protests made a reappearance in the Quebec election Wednesday after having dropped off the radar in the campaign's first weeks.

Thousands of students marched in Montreal — just as they have on the 22nd of every month for the last six months.

The event was peaceful, at times even festive, though in some cases people tore down a number of political campaign posters for different parties.

The protests have faded as an election issue, mere weeks after they were attracting international news coverage and dominating the political conversation.

The student unrest didn't even come up once in the only election debate to have featured all four leaders of the biggest parties.

Part of that absence has to do with a strategic decision made by many students: Most have returned to class, with some citing a desire to avoid making themselves a campaign issue.

Premier Jean Charest is accused by opponents of manipulating the calendar to ensure the strikes would be a top-of-mind issue for voters. His emergency law set the mid- to late-August dates for the return to colleges and universities, and then he called an election for that period.

If so, very few students appear to be playing their assigned part in Charest's supposed campaign script. The number of students on strike has diminished by more than four-fifths since the peak of the movement.

That doesn't mean the issue has disappeared completely; universities are set to reopen in the coming days and it's unclear how smooth that process will be.

One spokesman for the more militant student organization, the CLASSE, promised the students would continue striking in defiance of Bill 78. He said the action would persist during, and after, the election. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Protesters opposing Quebec student tuition-fee hikes demonstrate in Montreal on Wednesday. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

PQ's pledge

- Marie Malavoy of the Parti Québécois has urged students not to pay their fees for the semester.
- The PQ is promising to scrap the Charest government's $254-a-year, seven-year plan for tuition hikes if it gets elected. The PQ has not said how it would fill the fiscal gap but is promising to call a symposium on the issue.

Tampa. Hurricane could strike site of Republican convention: Forecasts

Tropical Storm Isaac is posing a potential threat to next week's Republican National Convention in Florida, which culminates in the nomination of Mitt Romney for president.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center on Wednesday morning said Isaac was expected to strengthen and could become a hurricane by Thursday.

Convention organizers knew it was a possibility during the peak of hurricane season. About 70,000 delegates, party officials, journalists, protesters and others are expected to attend.

It's been 90 years since a major hurricane made a direct hit on Tampa, the site of the convention. Florida, historically the nation's top target for tropical systems, has not been hit by a major hurricane since Wilma in 2005.

National Hurricane Center computer models had predicted Isaac would become a hurricane over the next few days, meaning maximum winds must be at least 120 km/h. Some models had the storm striking Florida, including the Tampa Bay area, after moving across Cuba or the Bahamas as early as Sunday morning.

Jeff Masters, director of meteorology at Weatherunderground.com, said long-range storm track predictions five days in advance are notoriously inaccurate, often off an average of 418 kilometres. But Masters said the climate situation has improved chances that Florida could be in the system's sights during the Republican event that runs Monday through Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just in case

- Republican and state officials have backup plans in place if the storm makes its way to Tampa, including an evacuation in a worst-case scenario.
- A four-day mock hurricane drill was held in May featuring a pretend major storm striking the Tampa area during the second day of the convention. Under that scenario, planners cancelled.

Obama, Romney deadlocked in new poll

U.S. President Barack Obama closes his umbrella as he boards Air Force One before his departure from Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas on Wednesday. A new AP-GfK poll shows Obama and Mitt Romney locked in a statistical tie, despite the Republican challenger's recent choice of conservative Rep. Paul Ryan as his running mate. With less than three months remaining before the Nov. 6 election, 47 per cent of registered voters said they planned to back Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden, while 46 per cent favoured Romney and Ryan. That's not much changed from a June AP-GfK survey, when the split was 47 per cent for the president to 44 per cent for Romney. DAVID BECKER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook

Probation given for online threats against Obama

A Florida man has been sentenced to three years' probation for posting threats against U.S. President Barack Obama on Facebook in February. U.S. District Judge Marcia Cooke ruled Wednesday that Joaquin Serrapio, 21, had acted wrongly but there was no evidence he intended to carry out the threats.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rape controversy

Ryan urged Akin to drop out of race

The U.S. congressman under fire for making comments about "legitimate rape" and pregnancy said Wednesday that Republican presidential challenger Mitt Romney's running mate, Rep. Paul Ryan, personally pleaded with him to leave a crucial Missouri Senate race, but the advice went nowhere. Rep. Todd Akin insisted he's in the race to stay, saying "this is not about my ego."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protesters demonstrate outside the court in Ventersdorp, South Africa, on Wednesday at the sentencing of the killer of right-wing leader Eugene Terreblanche. Chris Mahlangu was given a life sentence for the 2010 murder of Terreblanche. DENIS FARRELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Farmworker gets life sentence for killing white supremacist

South Africa. White protesters oppose Mahlangu supporters outside courtroom

A black farmworker was sentenced to life in prison Wednesday for the brutal murder of South African white-supremacist leader Eugene Terreblanche in a case that has been a source of racial tension in the city of Ventersdorp.

About 100 protesters sang anti-white songs outside the courtroom in the city just west of Johannesburg to support 30-year-old Chris Mahlangu, who had pleaded guilty but argued that he acted in self-defence in what the judge found was a violent dispute over wages.

They were opposed by 20 white protesters who carried the dummy of a black man with a rope around his neck and a sign that said: "Hang Mahlangu."

As Mahlangu was leaving the court, the protesters tied the effigy to a pick-up truck and drove around the black crowd.

Mahlangu was found guilty for beating Terreblanche, 69, to death with an axe in April 2010 after breaking into his house with a teenage accomplice. Mahlangu said he feels he did no wrong by ridding the world of a man some called a monster.

The second man

A second man, Patrick Ndlovu, who was a teenager at the time of the killing two years ago, was sentenced to a two-year prison sentence which means he goes free.

- Ndlovu was found guilty of breaking and entering with intent to steal.

The judge had rejected a defence argument that Mahlangu had been sodomized by Terreblanche and acted in self-defence. Mahlangu also claimed that Terreblanche infected him with HIV.

Zola Majavu, Mahlangu's lawyer, said on Wednesday that they are planning to appeal both the court's findings and the sentence.

After the sentencing, the Young Communist League of South Africa released a statement calling the judgment racially biased.

"Eugene Terreblanche was a white supremacist who made no qualms about his lack of love and respect for the black Africans and still believed in white supremacy and black oppression. How is it that the issue of self-defence is not taken serious?" said the statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zellers layoffs. Unionized workers hit Target office to deliver petition to execs

Unionized workers delivered a blistering attack on Target and corporations like it on Wednesday, at a protest in front of the company's new Canadian headquarters in Mississauga.

"We need to fight back against this corporate greed. We need to build a huge movement to take back this country for workers," said Motilall Sarjoo, president of the Mississauga Brampton Labour Council.

Sarjoo was addressing a crowd of about 120 people, including union members and leaders of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW), the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) and NDP MP Wayne Marston.

The group had gathered to deliver a petition to Target executives, asking them to respect the seniority and benefits of Zellers employees who are being laid off as Target takes over Zellers leases across Canada as part of a $1.8-billion deal with HBC.

Target, a discount retailer based in Minneapolis, plans to open its first stores in the GTA in 2013.

Target has maintained that it has no responsibility towards the Zellers employees, because it bought only Zellers leases from HBC. Citing its status as a private company, HBC has repeatedly declined to comment.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Let go

27,300

An estimated 27,300 employees are being let go as a result of the transaction. About 15,000 of them work in stores being converted to Target stores.

U.S. outbreak

West Nile cases four times higher for mid-August

The current West Nile outbreak is one of the largest in the U.S., with four times the usual number of cases for this time of year, federal health officials said Wednesday. So far, 1,118 illnesses have been reported, about half of them in Texas. In an average year, fewer than 300 cases are reported by mid-August. There have also been 41 deaths this year, Centers for Disease Control said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya

Nearly 50 killed in attack over land

Hundreds of farmers attacked a village, killing at least 48 people in southeastern Kenya in an escalation of ongoing clashes between the farming and pastoral communities over land and resources, an official said Wednesday.

Some people were burned to death in their houses, while others were hacked to death or shot with arrows, said Tana River region police chief Joseph Kavoo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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StatsCan. Retail sales down in June, against experts' expectations

Retail sales in Canada fell in June, widely missing expectations of a small gain as increasingly cautious shoppers pulled back on a number of fronts and overnight trips to the U.S. hit a record high as higher duty-free exemptions kicked in.

Statistics Canada reported Wednesday that seasonally adjusted retail sales declined 0.4 per cent to $38.7 billion in June from the month earlier, more than offsetting a gain in May and frustrating economists who had expected a 0.1 per cent increase.

The biggest declines were felt by retailers who sell general merchandise, gasoline, building materials and garden equipment.

"The surprise drop in June sales was broad-based, suggesting households are becoming a little more cautious, though cross-border shopping may have played a role as well," BMO Capital Markets senior economist Benjamin Reitzes said.

Canadians made a record 1.9 million overnight trips to the U.S. in June, including 1.2 million trips by car — a 10 per cent increase month over month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stateside shopping

1.9M

Canadians made a record 1.9 million overnight trips to the U.S. in June

Market Minute

DOLLAR 100.87¢ (-0.17¢)

TSX 12,118.99 (+2.06)

OIL $96.99 US (+15¢)

GOLD $1,642.20 (-70¢)

Natural gas: $2.826 US (+5.1¢)
Dow Jones: 13,172.76 (-30.82)

Loonie not biggest problem facing exports, Carney says

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney, left, and CAW president Ken Lewenza shake hands at the CAW convention in Toronto on Wednesday.
MICHELLE SIU/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Manufacturing. Strong dollar explains only about 20 per cent of our poor export performance, Bank of Canada chief tells CAW

Don't look to the loonie as the biggest problem facing Canadian exports, Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney said Wednesday in his first-ever public address to organized labour.

The central banker's speech to a gathering of the Canadian Auto Workers' union was not only Carney's maiden public address to a labour group, but also the first time any Bank of Canada governor has made such an overture.

Carney addressed a persistent complaint of those who put the blame for weak exports squarely on the shoulders of the strong Canadian dollar. The manufacturing sector and auto industry have been particularly hard hit in recent years.

He noted Canada's export performance was the second-worst in the G20 over the last decade, with only nine per cent of exports going to fast-growing emerging markets such as China and India.

The structure of the Canadian economy, "unfortunately, is too north-south, not enough east-west in a global sense," Carney said during a media conference after his speech.

While CAW president Ken Lewenza conceded that the dollar isn't the only factor affecting auto manufacturing, he maintained that the loonie is more significant than Carney suggested. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"The high-paying manufacturing jobs of the future will be in companies ... that are fully engaged in the global economy."
Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney

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PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME, NHL

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/voices/he-says

The worst thing about the potential for a cancelled NHL season is that it lays bare my pathetic addiction. I'm hopelessly hooked on a league that doesn't care how I feel.

Can't you spare a hit or two for a guy down on his luck, NHL?

As I write, labour talks are ongoing. So maybe by the time you read this both sides will have already had an action-movie style "Not partners — friends!" handshake and will soon be enjoying Coca-Cola atop a hillside in perfect harmony. Somehow I doubt it.

NHL fan hardship

And the NHL is the only league where the referees rediscover the rule book every 10 years or so, as if it were an old wedding album. 'Wow, I forgot about this thing!' they say as they blow the dust off.

It looks like the league is heading toward its third lockout in two decades, which will leave me in withdrawal — sad, shivering and holding my head in my oversized novelty hands.

The league can be a cold-hearted partner even when it's running smoothly. Your favourite team can let you down year after year, while teams in the Deep South win despite holding what appear to be Empty Seat Nights.

And the NHL is the only league where the referees rediscover the rule book every 10 years or so, as if it were an old wedding album. "Wow, I forgot about this thing!" they say as they blow the dust off.

But turning these labour disputes into some sort of twisted tradition is the cruellest cut of all.

There will be lots of detail-laden news articles — pity the poor reporters who chose sports so they wouldn't have to write phrases like 'collective bargaining' — but the facts don't really matter.

All we know is that Rich White Man No. 1 wants one thing and Rich White Man No. 2 wants another, and somewhere along the way somebody will say, "It's not about the money" and we'll laugh through our tears.

None of the players are using their sticks and jock straps to build makeshift bindles, and if the owners were to start living out of their vehicles they'd still be in nicer digs than my apartment. Catriona Le May Doan will not be walking among emaciated negotiators, asking us to donate. ("Some of them are so weak they haven't thrown a punch in months.")

Of course it's about the money.

What's worse, when my drug is back I will accept it without condition as soon as it's offered, like any true addict. The NHL's marketing campaign after the lost season could be "Welcome back, sucker!" and I'd say, "Awesome!"

And I won't even be able to give the NHL the middle finger, because my giant novelty hands don't bend that way.

I couldn't imagine living life without giant novelty hands. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

For flippin' sakes! It's weigh-in time

GETTY IMAGES

Animal well-being

Animals weighed at annual check

It's time to find out which critter has been gorging.

Keepers at a London, U.K., zoo get out the scales for the annual animal weigh-in this week. Every one of the 16,000 or so animals, across 750 species, including penguins, meerkats, lions and owls, are put on the scales and measured, "to assess their health and behaviour," a spokesperson at the zoo says. METRO

Weigh-in weighed up

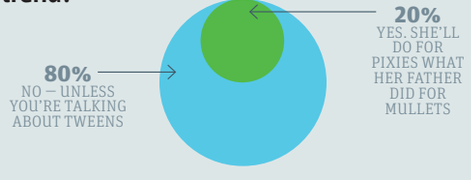
- **Worldwide database.** The measurements are recorded into the Zoological Information Management System. They can be shared with zoos worldwide, which zoologists use to compare data on endangered species.
- **What zoological director David Field says.** "This information helps us to monitor their health, their diets and their general well-being."

These pensive meerkats are certainly weighing in on London Zoo's annual animal audit. GETTY IMAGES

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Will Miley Cyrus' new shorter, blonder haircut start another wave of the pixie cut trend?



Twitter

@dummy306: Was gonna tweet indirect hate, but what's the point.. #karma

@WinnyBeale: Can't wait to see my long lost friend from Saskatoon tonight.

@ChrixMorix: That episode of the X-Files that was too scary.

@Mutzy306: Things are bad when a group of youths(15 yr old girl with sisters 6&7) leave the YMCA in Saskatoon at 5pm& get robbed 4 longboard&food...

@theotherHilary: I'm not sure why everyone likes Konga Cafe - I had the worst goat curry there of my life. Plus, ants. Anyways.

@erinmmatthews: I will be terrified to go to Preston Crossing when the new stores open. The parking lot traffic there is already an epic nightmare!

metro

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SCENE 2

CCMAs have Wyatt ready to celebrate in Saskatchewan

Country crooners. Band looks forward to new album release, but in the meantime they'll be partying it up at the awards

BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

Danny Fortier (left) and Scott Patrick from Wyatt performed recently at the Mall Concert Series as part of the leadup to Country Music Week.
SIMON HIATT/FOR METRO

As a veteran of music events, awards shows and festivals, Scott Patrick has some advice for the host city of the upcoming Country Music Week and Canadian Country Music Association Awards.

"Rest up Saskatoon, because it's going to be a heck of a party."

Any good party needs good hosts, and while there is a huge committee in place to make sure things go off without a hitch when the CCMAs arrive in the province, in terms of unofficial ambassadors it's tough to imagine better representatives than Patrick and his band mates in Wyatt.

Patrick and Danny Fortier, who both sing and play guitar in the band, met by chance at a songwriter's event less than a decade ago. Since then they, along with Cam Ewert (vocals and bass guitar) and Bray Hudson (drums), have taken the local country music scene by storm.

In 2008 they received both the Rising Star and Group of the Year awards from the Saskatchewan Country Music Association. Far from resting on their laurels, they have gone on to win the group award four consecutive times since.

"It's an honour for us to represent the province and be the group of the year, because we travel around a lot and hopefully put on a good face for Saskatchewan," said Patrick.

Like any good party hosts, the band will make the rounds during the country music extravaganza as well, with plans to play three or four gigs including the Rock'n Country Cabaret on Friday, Sept. 7.

"There are all kinds of opportunities, not just to play, but to meet up with old friends. That's what CCMAs are all about, everyone from the industry conglomerates into one place at one time. It's great," said Fortier.

The event should also help spread the word about their music to a more national audience. They recently signed with MDM Music, a subsidiary of EMI Canada, and will be releasing the follow up to their debut album If I Had a Dollar in the new year.

"We've got everything in place to take that next step, so we're excited about what's coming up," said Fortier.

But before they get too far ahead of themselves, band members plan to thoroughly enjoy the party that's coming to their hometown.

"I think Saskatoon's going to set the bar this time around. Future CCMAs are going to try and live up to it. That is my guess," said Fortier.

"I'm looking forward to not sleeping for four days," added Patrick.

Details

In addition to the awards show, which will be held at Credit Union Centre Sunday, September 9, there are several other major events being staged by the CCMA during country music week, which is expected to draw crowds from across the province and the nation:

- CCMA New Artist Showcase – Sept. 6 at TCU Place.
- Songwriter's Café – Sept. 6-8 at TCU Place.
- CCMA Seminars – Sept. 7-8 at TCU Place.
- CCMA Fanfest – Sept. 8 at Prairieland Park.
- For more information on all events visit potashcorpcountrymusicweek2012.com

On the web

Jimmy Kimmel moving into competition with Leno, Letterman; Nightline moving to later time.

Read metro work every Monday and Wednesday for tips and trends in education and employment.

Only in Metro. News worth sharing.

J.Lo to get Vegas show?

Jennifer Lopez may be the next music luminary to take up residence in Las Vegas with a long-running show, according to Hollyscoop.

The entertainment company Live Nation has reportedly approached Lopez about a long-term engagement, and her rep concedes it's not out of the question, telling the website, "It could very well be possible."

Lindsay Lohan

This time it's not her fault

Lindsay Lohan was reportedly questioned by police after jewelry went missing from a Hollywood Hills home where the troubled actress had spent the night, according to TMZ.

Lohan was reportedly among several guests who stayed overnight after a small party at the home Sunday night. The next morning, the house's owner claimed expensive jewelry had been stolen and called the police. Sources says Lohan was very co-operative with police but maintained that she had nothing to do with any theft.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Prince Harry parties like a professional

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

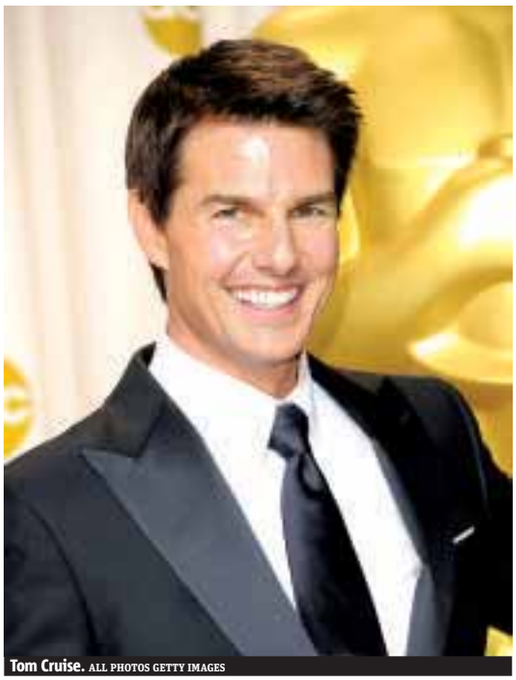
Prince Harry is learning the hard way that "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas" doesn't apply to drunk, naked members of the Royal Family.

Harry, you see, had a way better weekend than the rest of us. After spending Friday afternoon poolside, Harry and friends stopped by the bar of the MGM Grand, where they met some girls — with cameraphones — who were, in fact, interested in partying upstairs with a prince.

According to TMZ, it was a game of "strip pool" that led to the photos of Harry — completely naked except for a necklace and wonderfully awkward tan lines — hugging an equally naked girl from behind and holding his crotch. Harry stuck around Las Vegas long enough to challenge Olympic swimmer Ryan Lochte to a race through a pool full of girls in bikinis (he lost, in some very vague sense of the word), but was quickly summoned back to Buckingham Palace when the photos went viral.

Now, we don't envy having to explain the rules of strip pool to Queen Elizabeth.

But all in all, we'd say his weekend was well worth the international hangover.



Tom Cruise. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

It's official

Tom Cruise's five-year marriage to Katie Holmes is officially over after a New York judge signed off on the divorce settlement earlier this week, according to E! News.

Completed in a remarkably short amount of time, the finalization comes just a month and a half after Holmes initially filed for divorce from Cruise.

"Tom is very happy and relieved that he is moving forward," a source says.

"His priority is being a good father, and this settlement will make sure that continues."

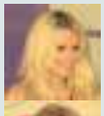
More car trouble for Amanda Bynes

Amanda Bynes was reportedly involved in yet another car accident, but this time it looks like it wasn't her fault.

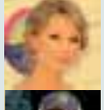
According to TMZ, Bynes' rental car was rear-ended by another driver Monday night, though the other driver reportedly claims they did not have enough time to react and avoid a crash after Bynes made a reckless move.

"The collision was minor and information was exchanged, therefore, no police report was taken," a law enforcement official tells the website. Bynes was driving a rental car because her BMW is still being repaired from her last fender-bender.

Twitter



@JessicaSimpson
Responsibility has drastically changed my life! Saturday night drink of choice.... WATER! :)



@taylorswift13
Interviews and rehearsals and meetings, oh my. It's about to get interesting.

@aplusk
Apparently the privacy of your own home is no longer the privacy of your own home #societyfail

@SteveMartinToGo
Due to audience demand, I will now be closed on Mondays.

LIFE 3

Gold makes an Olympic comeback

If, like us, you're still reeling from post-Olympic depression (POD), then take solace in these golden wonders.

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronews.ca

Striding out: The best of the British fashion industry's talent at the London Olympic Closing Ceremony. GETTY IMAGES

Perfect poise: Lily Donaldson wears Vivienne Westwood. GETTY IMAGES

She's still got it! Kate Moss in Alexander McQueen. GETTY IMAGES

Delicate power: Lily Cole in a lace and brocade Erdem dress. GETTY IMAGES

Get the Midas touch

Metallic geo jacquard trousers

$90, topshop.com

Zara purse toiletry bag with gold studs

$36, zara.com

Marni metallic leather brogues

$685, net-a-porter.com

Marc by Marc Jacobs light toffee Veruschka lamé T-shirt

$520, my-wardrobe.com

On the Web

Not all Impulse: Nicole Richie touting her work ethic with new collection at Macy's

Striking gold

Get a golden glow with one of our winning beauty picks.

Chanel: long wear luminous eyeshadow: Illusion d'Ombre in Vision

$36, chanel.com

Dolce & Gabbana: Lipstick: Shine Lipstick in Gold

$30
dolce gabbana makeup.com

Rococo: Gold Leaf Lacquer

$48
spacenk.com

Oribe: Gold Pomade: gold flecked make up for hair

$49, oribe.com

Create a unique space from shopping the online classifieds

A bed, desk, chairs, rugs, lamps and storage system all cost less than $200 when purchased with online classifieds. KIJIJI.CA

Design centre.
Heading back to college? Find new and gently used items online to fit your student budget

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Finding the perfect space to call home is one of the many stresses of heading back to college.

Thankfully, there are more resources than ever to help you find great deals and build a place to make your own.

Using online classifieds like kijiji.ca makes it easy to find new and gently used items to make the space feel like home.

By applying common sense and some simple design tricks you can create a unique space on a student budget:

Find the perfect piece
Unique finds start with unique keywords so searching online classifieds using words like "vintage" almost always does the trick. Furniture from the '50s to the '70s is on trend right now and vintage pieces like tables and chairs are stylish and surprisingly affordable.

Think outside the box with art as well; do something different like hanging a small, patterned rug on your wall (it also acts as a sound barrier).

Practice smart space-saving
Organization is the key to making a small space look amazing.

When searching for shelves and other storage items, don't forget to think vertical. A tall bookcase or some strategically placed hooks make it easy to clear the clutter from your floors.

And, get creative with storage solutions. For example, repurpose old family heirlooms like a great big steamer trunk or vintage luggage.

Customize with colour and shape
Show off your personality with unique décor items in bold colours and shapes.

Tangerines and oranges are everywhere right now. To offset the colourful furniture, stay consistent with your basic colours and keep your walls monochromatic.

Don't forget that if you love the shape of a piece of furniture, you can always change the colour with an inexpensive coat of paint.

Updating is uber-easy
Small changes can have a big impact, especially if you're moving into an old space. Look to add a new pop of colour by simply swapping out accent pillows and small décor items each year.

Toxic flame retardants

Dusting can tackle harmful household releases

How can I avoid toxic flame retardants in my home? – Karen of Ottawa

QUEEN OF GREEN
Lindsay Coulter
green@metronews.ca

If you don't plan to get rid of your TV and furniture, the simple answer is to dust.

Studies have shown that consumer products, not industrial releases, are the likely source of flame retardants or, PBDEs (polybrominated diphenyl ethers) building up in people and animals.

These toxic chemicals — found in furniture, carpets and electronics — have been linked to cancer, adverse effects on the developing brain, and immune and reproductive problems.

They are also persistent and bioaccumulative, which means they build up in the environment and our bodies (and in the bodies of animals like polar bears and killer whales).

That's right, your TV, curtains and couch shed PBDEs. Then these chemicals contaminate household dust, posing a substantial health risk to people.

In fact, household dust is now recognized as one of the most significant sources of childhood exposure to toxic substances.

Studies show that dust is really a chemical soup with low levels of flame retardants, phthalates, metals like lead, mercury and arsenic, and pesticides.

Sure, some of these chemicals are tracked in from outside, but most originate from the wear-and-tear of consumer products. You'll also find higher levels in dryer lint and in the vacuum cleaner bag.

As well as dusting more often — I suggest using a 50:50 mix of vinegar and olive oil to polish and clean — leave your shoes at the door. Shoes track contaminated dirt into your home, with everything from pesticides to lead.

The Door Mat Study suggests wiping shoes on a mat and taking them off at the door.

And leave your runners, soccer cleats and bike shoes at the door instead of storing them in a bedroom closet. It's a simple step that can reduce lead dust in your home by 60 per cent.

You can reduce lead dust in your home by 60 per cent by leaving those dirty shoes at the door. ISTOCK IMAGES

Still in search of the perfect bed?

You did a segment on the components of a perfect bed, but I can't find the article. Could you please tell me what the components are, and recommend a good bedding store that has all of it and a wide enough selection, so that men don't feel or think that "feminine patterns" are only available? Thanks, Terry.

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

How did I ever sleep without the perfect bed recipe? ISTOCK IMAGES

Hello Terry,

First, let's start with a wonderful luxurious bed making "recipe". As a Butler this is what we would use for all of our special guests at the house.

Once you try this, you will wonder how you ever slept without it. As a man, you may wish to consider going with all-white sheets or a masculine colour that matches your bedroom. White sheets are easier to wash and remove stains, and patterned and colour sheets will fade over time.

Pillows (as per the size of bed and how many you like)
Top Sheet: (Second flat sheet that is used to cover the blanket)

Blanket: (Wool or other)

Flat Sheet: (This is the 1st flat sheet)

Fitted Sheet

Feather Bed: (My all time favourite) or a Wool Rest

Mattress pad protector

Mattress: (regular)

Box Spring

In addition, a good feather down, with a duvet cover made of the same sheet fabric is ideal. It is difficult to buy all of these items in one place, however these are some great sources that I personally have used, see below.

FEATHER BED: SEARS OR AMAZON
WOOLREST: WWW.WOOLREST.CO.NZ
SHEETS, PILLOWS AND DUVETS: SEARS, THE BAY, LL BEAN, AU LIT FINE LINEN.

Pizza without those delivery costs

Tomato-Salad Topped Grilled Pizza

This recipe serves four. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Melissa d'Arabian is a home economist for a new era. Actually, she's more of a chief financial officer.

That's because the Food Network host is as adept at balancing ledger sheets as she is at getting dinner on the table.

It's a handy skill that comes with being a trained financial strategist, and turned out to be an unlikely backbone for her culinary career.

Her basic message to thrifty home cooks? Stretch your food dollars by treating your kitchen in terms of profit and loss. "As the manager of a household you're actually running a fairly complicated business," she says. "There are simple lessons we can take from the business world and apply to our homes."

Forecasting

Successful businesses project what their upcoming costs and revenues will be. A "rapid review" of a month's worth of grocery receipts will give the home cook an idea of what's being spent, d'Arabian says.

Once you have that number, figure out how much you'd like to save per month then do some quick menu planning.

"Glance around and see what needs to be used up," she says. Then buy only what you need to fill out the meals already lurking in your pantry."

Marketing

You have to promote dinner to your kids? "You don't have to, but you'll be a lot more success if you do," d'Arabian says.

In the d'Arabian household, a different child "presents" the meal each night, explaining each dish in detail — what's in it, where it's from, how it's made. "The act of presenting the food takes the mystery out of it for picky eaters," she says.

Here is d'Arabian's recipe for a pizza you make on the grill.

Ingredients

Start to finish: 45 minutes

- 1 tbsp olive oil, plus extra for dough
- 1-lb bag pizza dough
- 1 large very ripe tomato, cored and chopped
- 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp kosher salt
- 6 fresh basil leaves, torn
- 4 oz fresh mozzarella cheese, thinly sliced and quartered
- 2 cups arugula or other baby greens

1. Rub a bit of olive oil onto cutting board, place pizza dough on it, turning to coat lightly on all sides with oil. Cover with a kitchen towel and let rest for 30 minutes.

2. After dough has rested, heat one side of grill to medium-high and other side to medium-low. In bowl, combine tomato, balsamic vinegar, lemon juice, salt, basil and 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Toss well, then set aside.

3. Using rolling pin, roll out dough into circle about 14 inches across. Use cutting board to carry dough out to grill. Place the dough on hot side of the grill and grill until bottom is browned and has grill marks, about 1 to 2 minutes. Use spatula to flip dough and move it to the cooler side of the grill.

4. Top pizza with mozzarella, then cover grill and cook until the cheese is melted, about 2 minutes. Use spatula to transfer the pizza back to cutting board. Cut pizza into slices, then top evenly with the arugula. Using a slotted spoon, top the pizza with the tomatoes. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ RECIPE FROM D'ARABIAN'S TEN DOLLAR DINNERS, CLARKSON POTTER, 2012**

Cookbook of the Week

Kitchen dollars and sense

Melissa d'Arabian, host of Food Network's Ten Dollar Dinners, makes good on the $10 promise of dinner for four in her debut cookbook.

Ten Dollar Dinners has 140 recipes, more than 100 practical money-saving tips and ways to get ingredients to last longer.

Her Potato-Bacon Torte shows how inexpensive supermarket ingredients can be turned into a satisfying dish. Her Roasted Vegetable Tian is a great way to take advantage of deals in the produce aisle. The Four-Step Chicken Piccata offers a plan for getting food on the table in just minutes, using almost anything in the pantry. **METRO**

Italian and Indian staples shine in Butter Chicken Pizza

1. In skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat. Add onion and cook, stirring often, 10 minutes or until golden.

2. Add garlic, tomato paste, garam masala, ginger, cinnamon and cayenne and cook, stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Stir in diced tomatoes, scraping any brown bits from the bottom of the pan; cook, stirring often, for 5 to 10 minutes or until most of the liquid has been absorbed and sauce is thick.

This recipe serve eight to 10. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Ingredients

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) butter or ghee
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) tomato paste
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) garam masala
- 5 ml (1 tsp) ground ginger
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) cayenne
- 1 can (796 ml/28 oz) diced tomatoes
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) whipping cream
- 500 ml (2 cups) chopped cooked chicken
- 500 g (1 lb) pizza dough
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil
- 250 ml (1 cup) shredded mozzarella cheese
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sliced green onions
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) cilantro

3. Whisk in cream until smooth and well combined; simmer for about 3 minutes or until slightly thickened. Stir in chicken. Remove from heat and set aside.

4. Heat barbecue grill to medium.

5. On a lightly floured surface, stretch or roll dough to a rectangle roughly 40 by 30 cm (16 by 12 inches). Place on a baking sheet or cutting board. Brush top with olive oil. Flip dough, oiled side down, onto preheated grill. Grill, with lid down, for 3 to 6 minutes or until bubbles form on top and it's grill marked underneath without charring. Flip over; grill, covered, for about 1 minute, just until surface is cooked but not browned. Remove from grill, sliding onto baking sheet with the oiled side down; reduce heat to medium-low.

6. Spread butter chicken evenly over pizza. Sprinkle with cheese and green onions. Slide back onto grill, lower lid and grill for 3 to 8 minutes or until cheese is melted and bubbly and underside is browned.

7. Sprinkle with cilantro before serving. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA (ANYDAYMAGIC.CA)**

Curried Peas with Cream. Give meat a flavour kick

Frozen peas are a fantastic freezer staple. You can elevate them quickly to a higher level with a little curry and cream. This combination adds a sophisticated kick to a variety of main courses from grilled meats, poultry and fish to roasted Sunday dinners.

1. In a small saucepan, bring 125 ml (1/2 cup) water to a boil. Add peas and simmer for 2 minutes. Strain and set aside.

2. Just before you are ready to eat, heat butter in the same saucepan over medium heat. Add garlic and ginger and sauté for 30 seconds. Add curry paste and cook, stirring, for 30 seconds or until fragrant. Add cream and simmer, stirring, for 2 to 3 minutes or until paste is incorporated and cream thickens slightly.

3. Return peas to the pan and season with salt and pepper. Stir to coat and serve immediately.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ DAIRY FAMERS OF CANADA (ANYDAYMAGIC.CA)

Ingredients

- 500 ml (2 cups) frozen peas
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) butter
- 5 ml (1 tsp) minced garlic and ginger root
- 10 ml (2 tsp) Madras curry paste
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) 35 per cent whipping cream
- 0.5 ml (1/8 tsp) salt
- 0.5 ml (1/8 tsp) pepper

Negotiations go dark on a sunny day in Toronto

NHL. Labour talks put on hold as league, players decide 'how to move the process forward in the best way possible'

NHL collective bargaining talks were cancelled Wednesday after top executives from the league and players' union held an impromptu morning meeting to discuss the status of the negotiations.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman and deputy commissioner Bill Daly spent about two hours with players' association executive director Donald Fehr and his brother Steve Fehr, the union's No. 2 man.

"I think more than anything else it was to review where we are in the process, where we've come from, where we are with the various proposals and to determine how to move the process forward in the best way possible — hoping and understanding that both sides are committed to using the time left to making a deal as quickly as possible," Daly told The Canadian Press in an interview.

The clock is ticking. The current collective agreement is set to expire Sept. 15 when the NHL says it will lock out the players if a new deal hasn't been reached.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman, left, and deputy commissioner Bill Daly leave NHLPA offices on Wednesday in Toronto. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Formal talks between the two sides were slated to resume at 1 p.m. Wednesday but were instead postponed until Thursday morning.

NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr said he didn't "know what's going to happen for sure (on Thursday)."

"You get up in the morning and you try and work that day to see if you can make progress," he added. "If you don't find an agreement that way you do it again the next day and you keep doing it until you find a way."

There is a significant gap between the two sides' proposals.

The union put forth an offer last week that includes a smaller percentage of revenues for players over the next three seasons in exchange for an expanded revenue sharing program to help struggling teams. The NHLPA estimated that players would be giving up $465 million US in salaries if the league continued on its pace of seven per cent growth each season.

The league's proposal called for a 24 per cent decrease in player salaries — accomplished by lowering the union's share of revenue — while introducing new contract restrictions, including a five-year cap on contracts. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Further issues

Beyond the monetary issue at the heart of talks, each side has prioritized a secondary cause.

- The NHLPA has made it clear that it would like to see an increase in revenue sharing and proposed the creation of an industry growth fund that would see $100 million contributed each year for struggling teams.
- The NHL is largely happy with the current economic system, but has made no secret of the fact it would like to see the end to heavily front-loaded, long-term contacts.

No holding back from Hall on 7-year pact

Taylor Hall is one of Edmonton's top offensive weapons but has had trouble staying healthy, missing 38 games in his first two NHL seasons. CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Taylor Hall is in for the long haul in Edmonton.

The Oilers signed the young forward to a $42-million US, seven-year contract extension Wednesday and the Calgary native said he had no hesitation about the length of the deal.

"When they said seven years I didn't blink," the 20-year-old Hall said. "I'm comfortable being here for that long. I think by that time ... I hope we're a perennial threat. That's my main goal and my mindset when I signed the deal."

Hall was the Oilers' first overall pick in 2010 and has since become a key fixture on the team's youthful top line alongside fellow first overall pick Ryan Nugent-Hopkins and Jordan Eberle.

The deal makes Hall the highest paid player on the Oilers in average salary at $6 million per year. Veteran centre Shawn Horcoff, who signed a hefty six-year, $33-million deal in 2009-10, will make $6 million next season but averages a lower cap hit at $5.5 million.

Eberle is also in negotiations for a contract extension and likely looking for similar money to Hall. Eberle made his rookie debut the same year as Hall and is coming off a breakout season.

"We've had some good dialogues throughout this whole thing and I think his should be pretty soon," Hall said of his linemate. "He's along the same path, he wants to be here and so do I." THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

2

Taylor Hall finished second in Oiler scoring last season with 27 goals and 53 points in 61 games. Jordan Eberle led the team with 34 goals and 76 points in 78 games.

MLB

A's Colon latest to be banned for testosterone

Former Cy Young Award winner Bartolo Colon of the Oakland Athletics was suspended for 50 games Wednesday after testing positive for testosterone.

Major League Baseball made the announcement one week after all-star game MVP Melky Cabrera of the San Francisco Giants was suspended 50 games for a positive test for the same substance. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bartolo Colon GETTY IMAGES FILE

NFL

"You bank on his maturity and experience to get him through a situation like this."

Philadelphia coach Andy Reid, who said Wednesday that Michael Vick will be ready for the Eagles' season opener. The star QB Vick probably won't play the rest of the pre-season with injured ribs.

Transaction complete

BCE, Rogers are now officially new owners of MLSE

The sale of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment and its sports television channels to two of Canada's biggest media companies, BCE and Rogers Communications is final.

The closure of the $1.07-billion deal Wednesday comes after the sale received the final regulatory green light last week from the CRTC.

Competitors Rogers and Bell will jointly own a 75 per cent stake in MLSE, which owns the Toronto Maple Leafs, the Toronto Raptors and Toronto FC. It also owns Leafs TV, Gol TV and NBA TV Canada, as well as two services that have not yet launched. THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Mobile sports

Rory McIlroy says he reveres and respects Tiger Woods' amazing list of accomplishments. But the PGA champion would still "love Tiger to go out first and kick his (behind)" when they pair up at The Barclays this week to kick off the PGA Tour playoffs. Scan the code for the story.

Teenage dream: Henderson to make history at Canadian Open

Golf. Henderson, 14, will become youngest golfer ever to compete in the tournament

Brooke Henderson is set to make history when she tees off at the CN Canadian Women's Open.

The 14-year-old Smiths Falls, Ont., native will become the youngest golfer ever to compete in the tournament, which opens Thursday at the Vancouver Golf Club.

"It's definitely pretty awesome, especially when you look at all the great players on the LPGA Tour now and all the great players that have come before me," Henderson said Wednesday.

Golf Canada officials said Lexi Thompson of the U.S. was the previous youngest golfer to compete in this tournament, at age 15, in 2010 in Winnipeg. Now 17, Thompson will also be competing this weekend.

Henderson has also captured the Canadian and Ontario junior girls championships this summer.

"I'm just really looking forward to the week, and I just want to stick to the game plan that I've come up with after looking at the course for the last few days," said Henderson, who is entering Grade 10.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Youngest ever

- Henderson, a member of Golf Canada's development squad, gained entry by winning a CN Canadian Women's Tour event earlier this year in Beloeil Que.
- She became the youngest ever golfer — male or female — to win a professional tournament, but had to decline the prize money because she is still an amateur.

Brooke Henderson, 14, of Smiths Falls, Ont., smiles while practicing on Wednesday at the Vancouver Golf Club in Coquitlam, B.C.. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Bautista ready to return to Jays

Toronto outfielder Jose Bautista is on track to return to the team Friday.

Manager John Farrell says the slugger had six at-bats Wednesday morning in a simulated game. He'll be in the lineup with Double-A New Hampshire on Thursday before joining the Blue Jays at Baltimore a day later.

Bautista hasn't played since July 16 because of a left wrist injury. He's hitting .244 with 27 homers on the year.

On Wednesday, Toronto put shortstop Yunel Escobar on the paternity list and recalled right-hander Chad Beck from Triple-A Las Vegas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jose Bautista THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue Jays' bats kept quiet again

Austin Jackson, left, scores on a single by Prince Fielder as Toronto Blue Jays catcher Jeff Mathis loses the ball in the sixth inning Wednesday in Detroit. Anibal Sanchez pitched effectively into the seventh inning, and the Detroit Tigers held on to beat the Blue Jays 3-2 on Wednesday night. The Blue Jays have been held to three or fewer runs for six straight games. DUANE BURLESON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL. League fines Calvillo for tripping attempt

Anthony Calvillo in game action in July. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Montreal Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo was among three players fined by the CFL on Wednesday. He was penalized for trying to trip an opponent on an interception return during Friday's 38-25 win over the Edmonton Eskimos.

Toronto Argonaut linebackers Brandon Isaac and Marcus Ball were also fined for separate dangerous and unnecessary illegal hits away from play during Saturday's game.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Badminton

6-month ban for teams that tried losing at Olympics

The four South Korean badminton players who purposefully tried to lose their last group matches at the London Olympics will be banned for six months, officials said Wednesday.

The Korean badminton association officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to speak about the decision. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB. Nationals say Strasburg could sit final two or three regular season starts

Nationals manager Davey Johnson says Stephen Strasburg could miss his final two or three turns in the rotation during the regular season.

In his first full season following elbow ligament replacement surgery, Strasburg is 15-5 with a 2.85 ERA and a National League-leading 183 strikeouts. The right-hander, 24, has thrown 145 1-3 innings. The Nationals are thought to have given him a limit of 160-180.

"I think it came out that with the off days, we'd need another starter for I think two starts," Johnson said after talking with general manager Mike Rizzo. "I think two starts, might have been three."

Washington began the day with a seven-game lead in the NL East, putting the city on track for post-season play for the first time since 1933.

The Nationals followed a similar plan last season with right-hander Jordan Zimmermann. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"It's funny, there wasn't anything said when we shut down (Jordan) Zimmermann"

Nationals manager Davey Johnson on the media attention given to the plan to rest Stephen Strasburg.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You seem so relaxed at the moment that others may think you no longer care, but that isn't true. Find ways to let loved ones know you are still there for them, even when your head is miles away.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
As Mars moves into the partnership area of your chart a lot of excitement will be generated in one-to-one situations. It will amuse (and delight) you when you realize so many people want to get close to you.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may find yourself at odds with people you work with today. No matter how much pressure they put on you to back down, you must not give in. You are right and they are wrong. It's just that simple.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Don't wait for other people to make the first move. Make it yourself and leave those you live, work and do business with in no doubt that you've got your act together. It's time to get serious about your ambitions.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
As Mars moves into one of the more sensitive areas of your chart today, you will be forced to confront people who have been giving you a hard time. Be direct, but listen to their side of the story as well.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
After a long period of being held back, you are at last free to pursue what interests you — regardless of what others might think or how much it might cost. Go a little crazy today. You owe it to yourself.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't waste your time on trivial issues. Now that energy planet Mars is leaving your sign, you have to get serious about how to make best use of your resources. They're not unlimited, you know.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Over the next few days, you will find that many more things go well for you, including those things you thought you would never master. Mars in your sign gives you the kick you need to be more active and ambitious.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You won't be quite so relaxed and easygoing today and tomorrow. Mars in the most sensitive area of your chart means you'll tend to see the negative more than the positive. Maybe, in the short-term, that's no bad thing.

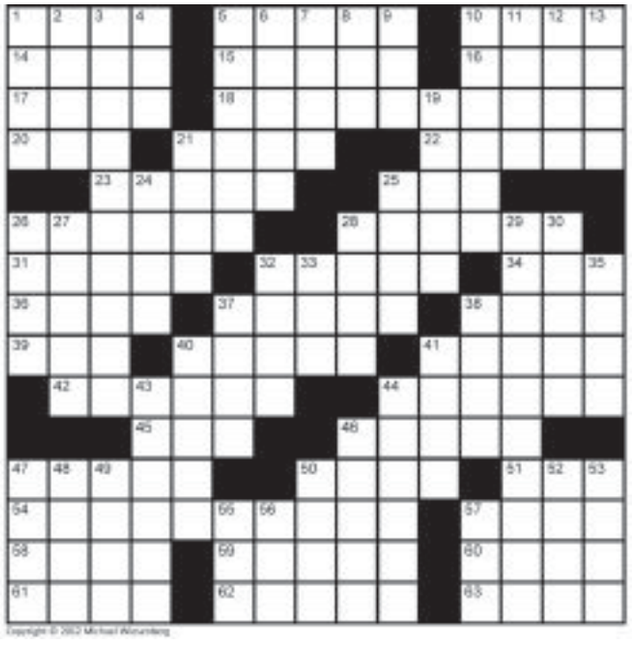
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
What you do for others today will come back to you in some form in the very near future. Go out of your way to help people in need, and your own needs will be taken care of too.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Mars crosses the career angle of your chart today, firing the ambitious side of your nature. Whatever it is you decide to do, it must be huge. Don't limit yourself to petty triumphs — go for the big one.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If you are planning a trip of some kind, you could hardly pick a better time because with Mars on your side you will head straight for your destination and won't allow anything to get in your way. Drive safely . SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canadiana

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Best baccarat hand
5. Mark sale items, perhaps
10. Go for a dip
14. "I have ____ good authority" (2 wds,)
15. British noblemen
16. Cantina fare
17. Ontario-born *Scream* star Campbell
18. Ontario, Erie, et al. (2 wds.)
20. Simon and Garfunkel's "I ___ Rock" (2 wds.)
21. Place for a 34-Across
22. Computer warning
23. Italian town in which the *Quantum of Solace* horserace takes place (anagram of ANISE)
25. CBS forensic drama
26. 7-Up nickname
28. Destination in a two-part route (2 wds.)
31. Blackened, as a chimney
32. Reeked
34. Canadiens member, familiarly
36. Blues songstress James
37. Table positions
38. DNA carrier
39. Batter's stat
40. Appears
41. Particular strength
42. Jabbered
44. It's a party in the UK
45. Chips accompaniment
46. Battlefield doctor
47. Days-old
50. Deceptive manoeuvre
51. Drum set
54. They handle our mail (2 wds.)
57. Opera set on the Nile
58. Neural transmitter
59. Actress Zellweger
60. Clairvoyant one
61. Circle
62. Ebenezer Scrooge, for one
63. "Hey, buddy"

Down
1. La ___: El Niño counterpart, an ocean phenomenon that affects weather
2. List part
3. Maritime Province (2 wds)
4. WSW opposite
5. Saskatchewan capital
6. —— living: work for wages (2 wds.)
7. *Enterprise* journey
8. Chicken ___ king (2 wds.)
9. Canada's national levy, for short
10. Former Soviet leader Joseph
11. Arouse from sleep
12. "Happy birthday" writer, perhaps
13. A majority
19. Cornea-reshaping surgery
21. Have faith in, with "on"
24. Tiny amount
25. Bamboozles
26. One with a computer
27. "___ a long shot!": "No way!" (2 wds.)
28. Affectionate taps
29. They form the Alberta-BC border (2 wds.)
30. Central and southern African people
32. Bird food
33. Scotsman's cap
35. Molson's, say
37. Ooze
38. Mongolian desert
40. Schussed
41. Become dim
43. Edmonton-born pop and country singer-songwriter and occasional actress who renders her name in lowercase letters (2 —3? — wds.)
44. PM Pearson
46. Museum: Fr.
47. Wound result, sometimes
48. Cab
49. Before much longer, poetically
50. Hollywood's Howard and Perlman
52. "Beware the ___ of March"
53. Fruit pastry
55. Elbow's locale
56. Maritime Prov.
57. African cobra

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

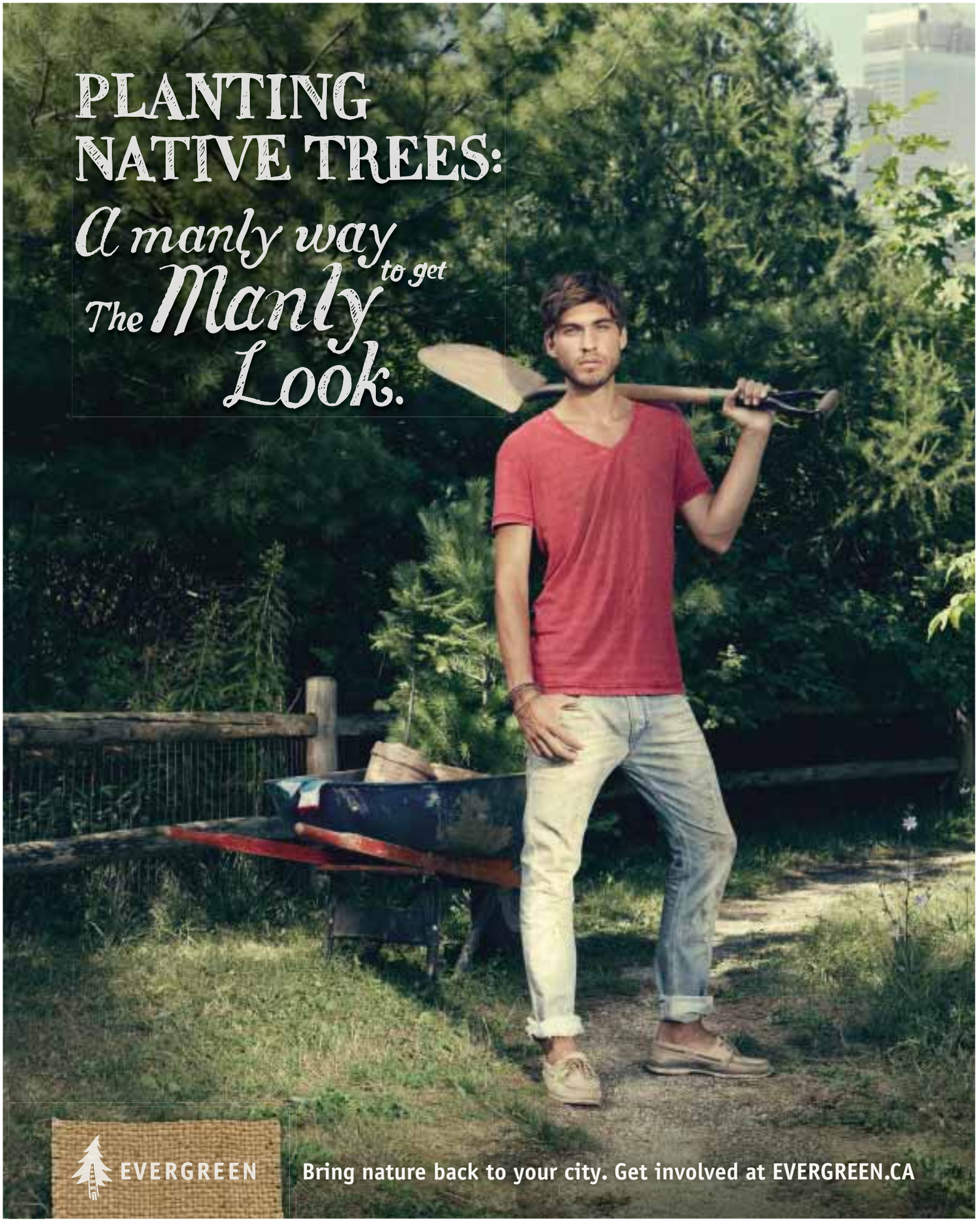
	3				9			
2			7	5		4	6	
7		8					1	
	6	2		9				
			6		2			
				7		3	2	
	4					5		1
	9	1		6	8			7
			4				3	

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	8	9	1	4	2	5	3	7
5	3	2	7	6	8	9	1	4
7	4	1	5	3	9	2	6	8
3	9	4	6	8	5	1	7	2
2	5	7	9	1	3	4	8	6
8	1	6	4	2	7	5	9	3
4	6	8	2	9	1	7	3	5
9	7	3	8	5	4	6	2	1
1	2	5	3	7	6	8	4	9

Sharability

easy — hard


PLANTING
NATIVE TREES:
A manly way to get
The Manly Look.
EVERGREEN
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